Persons killed in Sri Lanka after accord

2026. DR. BAPU KALDATE :
SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) what are the details of the people belonging to LTTE organisation, local Citizens and men of the Indian Peace Keeping Force killed in Sri Laka during the last three months (January to March, 1988);

(b) what is the total number of persons killed since the arrival of Indian Peace Keeping Force in Sri Lanka up to December, 1987;

(c) whether there has been any discussion between the LTTE and the Indian Peace Keeping Force;

(d) whether the negotiations to surrender arms and also to begin negotiations with the Government of India for a settlement has begun; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b) The number of IPKF personnel killed during the period January to March, 1988 is 60. Since their arrival in Sri Lanka up to December, 1987, 336 IPKF personnel were killed. In an operation of this kind, it is not possible to determine the exact number of civilians/militants killed.

(c) to (e) No, Sir. Informal contact has, however, been established with some LTTE leaders on the question of surrender of arms by the LTTE and their agreeing to abide by the Indo-Sri Lanka Agreement. The negotiations are still in progress. It would not be desirable to divulge details at this juncture.

Sale of US F-16 fighters to Pakistan

2027. SHRI ANAND SHARMA :
DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the U.S. decision to sell more F-16 fighters, Sparrow and Sidewinder air-to-air missile to Pakistan; and

(b) whether the fresh offer is likely to create serious arms imbalance in the region ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The acquisitions of military equipment by neighbouring countries have a bearing on our security. Government maintains a constant watch on such acquisitions. Adequate steps would be taken by Government to meet any eventuality that may arise.

Defence links between South Africa and Pakistan

2028. SHRI ANAND SHARMA :
DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of a defence link up between South Africa and Pakistan for developing nuclear weapons; and

(b) if so, what are the details of such collaborations and its impact on the security of the region ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) and (b) Government have seen reports about secret contacts between Pakistan and South Africa for collaboration in the nuclear field.

Any collaboration between Pakistan and South Africa in so far as it furthers their respective weapons-oriented nuclear programmes will have an adverse impact on our security environment.